

STATEMENT

Truth of the Chon Du Hwan Military Fascist Clique's Plot to Kill Democrat Kim Dae Jung of South Korea

The criminal moves of the Chon Du Hwan military fascist clique to kill the democrat Kim Dae Jung have now entered on the final stage in south Korea.

The all-time cutthroats, the Chon Du Hwan gang, are trying to decide the death sentence of Kim Dae Jung at the puppet supreme court and execute him without delay.

The Kim Dae Jung case is not confined only to his fate; it is a most heinous political intrigue to strangle all the democratic forces and the reunification movement in south Korea and maintain the military fascist ruling system indefinitely by eliminating Kim Dae Jung.

Considering the fascist outrage of the Chon Du Hwan outfit against Kim Dae Jung a criminal action to wipe out democracy in south Korea and hinder the country's peaceful reunification, we issue this statement exposing the truth of their plot to execute Kim Dae Jung.

1

It was not recently that the plot of the south Korean fascists to eliminate the democrat Kim Dae Jung was hatched.

This robber-like plot widely known to the world as the Kim Dae Jung case came to the surface in the early 1970s, ten years ago.

The Kim Dae Jung case dates back to the "election" of the puppet president of south Korea in April 1971.

In the "election" Kim Dae Jung won 46 per cent of the total votes in spite of unprecedented election fraud.

It was not fortuitous, therefore, that the public at home and abroad unanimously said that Kim Dae Jung "was worsted in ballot counting but actually won in voting."

This was the very cause of the case.

The traitor Pak Jung Hi mobilized all money and powers. But he lost in the "voting" and felt keenly the need of doing away with Kim Dae Jung.

On May 24, 1971, in less than one month after the "election," he made a big truck hit cars of Kim Dae Jung and his party on a road in South Cholla Province, killing three of them and heavily wounding another three. Kim Dae Jung narrowly escaped death.

Attempts to assassinate Kim Dae Jung were made without letup also while he was in exile abroad.

At the special order of Pak Jung Hi to kill Kim Dae Jung, agents of the "KCIA" threw rotten tomatoes at him speaking before compatriots abroad or made many attempts on his life including deliberate car collision. But all their "operations" failed.

Pak Jung Hi flew into a great fury and ordered his yesmen, saying like a madman that "I would rather die than keep Kim Dae Jung alive," to "do away with him at once either by chopping him to pieces and bringing him back in a knapsack or by throwing him into the Korean Strait."

This is how the Kim Dae Jung kidnap case took place in the heart of Tokyo in broad daylight on August 8, 1973.

This case which once caused a worldwide sensation was a most shameless international gangsterism of the Pak Jung Hi clique to kill Kim Dae Jung.

But their crime was exposed to the world and their plan to kill him failed. They took him to south Korea, imprisoned and subjected him to all kinds of inhuman persecution. Under the pressure of the home and world public they set him free at last. But they sealed up his political activities, depriving him of "civil rights" and putting him under house arrest.

The struggle of the south Korean people against the persecution and repression of Kim Dae Jung by the "Yusin" fascist dictatorship went on unendingly and eventually developed into a powerful anti-fascist democratization uprising to overthrow the "Yusin system."

The traitor Pak Jung Hi who attempted so desperately to kill Kim Dae Jung paid dearly for his crime, meeting a miserable end in the angry waves of the anti-fascist democratization movement. This was the well-deserved end of a dictator, a despot.

If things are to go well, with the death of the fascist dictator the "Yusin system", his brainchild, should have been destroyed in south Korea and the Kim Dae Jung case, the cursed remainder of this system, brought to an end.

But the Chon Du Hwan clique appeared as an ultra reaction for the fascist dictatorship in south Korea and began a new reactionary offensive against the democratic forces, the "Yusin" spectre was revived and the second Kim Dae Jung case cropped out.

The traitor Chon Du Hwan, the all-time cutthroat, plotted to install himself in power, seizing upon the golden chance of the dictator Pak Jung Hi's death.

He built up his political foothold with his relatives and alumni and persons from his hometown in the puppet army and started to emasculate and wipe out the democratic forces.

The spearhead of his attack was directed against Kim Dae Jung, the representative of the democratic forces and the symbol of the democratization movement in south Korea.

They thought that the elimination of Kim Dae Jung would be a sure way to put down all the anti-fascist forces in the way of their seizure of power and easily assume power.

The quisling Chon Du Hwan's plot to get rid of Kim Dae Jung began to come to light at the funeral service of the former dictator on November 3, 1979, when he said to Sin Hyon Hwak, the former "Prime Minister": "Kim Dae Jung's behaviour is questionable. He must be eliminated and the

government for Kyongsang Provinces be defended.”

Less than one month later, on November 28, he let the “Martial Law Commander” say to pressmen: “As a man who participated in the communist movement cannot be an officer, so a doubtful man cannot be the head of state. If the people don’t know what Kim Dae Jung is, you must let them know about him.”

Through the “army purge coup” on December 12 last year the Chon Du Hwan gang placed the puppet army under their control and started to put their plan to get rid of Kim Dae Jung into practice in real earnest.

They made a cunning plan to conduct a slander campaign and play all kinds of nasty tricks to lower the reputation of Kim Dae Jung among the people on the one hand and on the other, punish him by shuffling off the responsibility for the democratization movement on to him when he carried on political activities after his reinstatement.

According to this plan, early this year they launched into a full-scale demagoguery against Kim Dae Jung, spreading false rumours slurring him and distributing false documents at home and abroad.

They spread many false rumours: “Kim Dae Jung is a communist”; “He is a smuggler of narcotics”; “He is going to establish a government for Cholla Provinces,” etc.

They went the length of delivering to the Japanese reactionaries data slandering that “Kim Dae Jung is not even qualified to be an army officer and treat secret matters and so he can never be the President, the supreme leader of the state and army.” Last May they gave a Kim Dae Jung-slandering document to a former expert of the “Ground Self-Defence Force” of Japan in the south Korean affairs for publication in the Japanese press.

The anti-Kim Dae Jung moves of the south Korean puppet clique escalated as his political activities expanded and his influence grew.

At the request of university students in Seoul Kim Dae Jung made a lecture entitled “April 19 Spirit and North-South Reunification” at Tongguk University last April, receiving the enthusiastic acclamation of thousands of students and tens of thousands of citizens. Upset by this, the Chon Du Hwan military gang instigated bad students to have a “government”-sponsored meeting called a “rally to flay Kim Dae Jung”.

Around this time, when a fierce struggle of students and people of all strata took place against fascism and for democracy in different parts of south Korea, the mad fascists openly picked a quarrel with Kim Dae Jung, describing it as a “riot agitated and masterminded” by him and other democrats.

Last April 29 the traitor Chon Du Hwan said at a press conference, describing the struggles of the south Korean students and workers as “unlawful acts,” that they “would strictly control all people, irrespective of whether they are politicians or not, when they commit such acts.” On the following day, at the “meeting of commanders of three services,” he, through the “warning” of the “Martial Law Commander,” threatened, obviously keeping Kim Dae Jung in mind: “We will strictly control the act of reducing campus to a venue for individual political propaganda.”

In May, when the flames of anti-fascist democratization struggle spread throughout south Korea demanding the “resignation of Chon Du Hwan” and the “abolition of the Yusin system” and the battle between democracy

and fascism grew acuter, Chon Du Hwan and his ilk started finally to execute their plot to dispose of Kim Dae Jung.

On May 17, they declared "emergency martial law" all over south Korea with the fictitious "threat of invasion from the north" as a pretext and committed a fascist outrage: they arrested and imprisoned Kim Dae Jung and many other democrats and organizers of the students' movement and let the "martial law forces" occupy and close down universities and press organs and banned all political activities.

This outrage was an unpardonable criminal act to destroy all the democratic forces including Kim Dae Jung and strangle the democratic movement in south Korea, establish military fascist dictatorship on the grave of democracy and stay long in power.

All these are the process, truth and historical background of the Kim Dae Jung case, the present focus of the world's attention.

2

The fascist executioners, the Chon Du Hwan clique, inflicted all sorts of inhuman tortures upon Kim Dae Jung after they illegally arrested and jailed him and fabricated an absurd document of a "full picture of investigation" and "indictment" and transferred him to the military court.

The military fascists charged him with horrible crimes of "attempted rebellion" and violation of the "Anti-Communist Law", the "National Security Law" and the "Martial Law Decree".

The fascist executioners accused unwarrantedly Kim Dae Jung of being a "pro-communist".

But how can such an extravagant farfetched logic work in this world?

It is well known to the public that Kim Dae Jung has never been a communist and he has never sympathized with communism.

He advocates liberal democracy; he is a Catholic and a conservative statesman.

People in south Korea who lived together with him know better about this than the fascists and his acquaintances in the world recognize it.

Therefore, even the traitor Pak Jung Hi could not dare indict him of being a "pro-communist" on the strength of their notorious "Anti-Communist Law" and "National Security Law", and after traitor Pak Jung Hi's death the south Korean judicial authorities who could not put Kim Dae Jung in jail permanently as a victim to the political retaliation of the "Yusin" dictator, had to take measure to release him after "serious examination" and declare all "suspicions" imposed on him null and void, reinstating him.

At the time, the traitor Chon Du Hwan was the "chief of the joint investigation office of the Martial Law Command" and agreed to restore the "citizenship" of Kim Dae Jung and guarantee the freedom of his political activities. But he changed his attitude suddenly and branded him as a dissident, saying: "Kim Dae Jung is an ardent communist who joined in leftist activities right after the August 15 liberation" and "he was sympathetic with the north's lines". What is behind such an attitude?

If Kim Dae Jung is an "ardent communist" who has been engaged in the leftist activities since liberation, how was it possible that he carried on his

political activities and even ran for "Presidency" in south Korea where anti-communism was the "first state policy" for over 30 years?

The same can be said of the allegation that he was "sympathetic with the north's lines" through his statements abroad.

Kim Dae Jung stated abroad: "If I am put in power, I will enforce a north-south confederation and build an economy for the people"; "The north and the south should rapidly recover homogeneity through an all-round exchange in political and economic spheres"; "A series of proposals of the north have some points in common with my unification view."

His statements were expressive of his opinion and political view as a politician and their contents are compatible with the three principles of independence, peaceful reunification and great national unity and the basic spirit of the July 4 North-South Joint Statement which were signed and promised before the whole nation to observe by the south Korean ruling circles.

Then if his statements contravene the "Anti-Communist Law" for "being sympathetic with the north's lines," those who sat face to face with us and signed the July 4 North-South Joint Statement whose main contents are the three principles of national reunification should have been indicted and punished.

In protest against the brazenfaced criminal acts of the Chon Du Hwan clique who branded him as a pro-communist, trying to punish him on the strength of the "Anti-Communist Law", Kim Dae Jung himself declared justly in the court that "If I were a communist, why didn't murdered Pak Jung Hi accuse me?"

The allegation of Kim Dae Jung's "plot of rebellion" is totally fabricated and false.

Kim Dae Jung is a democrat who fought against the fascist dark rule and to realize the democratization of society and achieve the country's peaceful reunification, the long-cherished desire of the whole nation.

It is an elementary common knowledge that one who advocates democracy, the universal political ideal of mankind, and strives for the peaceful reunification of the country, the aspiration of the fellow countrymen, cannot be indicted.

Further, Kim Dae Jung carried on his righteous activities for democracy and peaceful reunification legally and mainly through public election campaign under the extremely restricted "constitutional order" in south Korea.

Then how can it be a "plot of rebellion" and an "act against the state"?

The Chon Du Hwan clique absurdly claimed in the "indictment" that the Kwangju popular uprising in May last was masterminded by Kim Dae Jung, shifting the responsibility on to him.

The witness to the true picture are the revolvers themselves in Kwangju.

The Kwangju popular uprising was masterminded by none; it was a righteous resistance of the people who, unable to endure the oppression and ill-treatment under the barbaric misrule of the military fascist clique, came out into the streets for freedom and democracy.

The Chon Du Hwan military fascist clique are wholly responsible for the situation in Kwangju.

But the Chon Du Hwan clique who kindled the flames themselves tried

to shift the responsibility on to Kim Dae Jung in prison. Their nefarious acts are the same as the thief, as it were, lifts his hand to strike the victim.

Therefore, Kim Dae Jung stated in court that "Originally, I was opposed to violence and rebellion because I could win if peaceful change of power took place," categorically rejecting the "accusation" of his "plot of rebellion".

The "full picture of investigation" and "indictment" against Kim Dae Jung were thoroughly false documents worked out by the traitor Chon Du Hwan to kill him, the political opponent.

In order to frame up the notorious "indictment" the executioners put Kim Dae Jung to all sorts of cruel tortures and concocted groundless facts, imposing threats and tortures to other "accused".

"The investigators of the government naked me, put me for over two months into an underground cell and questioned me over 15 hours a day. My pains cannot be described. I signed my statements against my will because I thought I could refuse them in court." This is the content of his statement about the forced barbaric examination.

They questioned other imprisoned democrats including Chon Dong Ryong who graduated from the Chonnam University for 24 hours in turns in an underground cell lighted by glow lamps and, imposing unbearable tortures and threats, forced them to confess that Kim Dae Jung plotted the "overthrow of the government" and organized the Kwangju popular uprising.

This fact was exposed fully by the statements of the "accused" in court.

As seen above, the contents of "accusation" against Kim Dae Jung are illegal and absurd ones framed up at the point of bayonets and the trial of Kim Dae Jung was, too, unwarranted and murderous.

According to the fragmentarily released materials, the military court of the fascist clique was, in fact, a robbers' one, void of elementary legal principles and procedures.

The military fascists forcibly separated other "accused" from Kim Dae Jung under the groundless pretext that if they are present with him in court they would not respond to the trials.

They excluded the lawyers and the witness recommended by Kim Dae Jung but called in "official counsels" and the "witness" chosen by themselves, and staged a trial virtually in secrecy, with a strictly restricted number of observers and reporters.

They had the military court surrounded by armed soldiers to create a horrible atmosphere and banned the covering and photographing of the trial and put it under severe press censorship.

If the trial was just and aboveboard, why was it closed in secrecy and under press censorship?

When Kim Dae Jung rejected the "indictment" framed up unwarrantedly and defended himself, the military thugs called in gendarmes and made them plug his mouth, beating him with bayonets on the chest and shoulders and stopped him speaking.

Then they reported falsely that Kim Dae Jung and other "accused" admitted "most of the charge" they had worked out according to their pre-planned scenario.

On October 30 last, Kim Dae Jung and all other "accused" refused the

trial and made collective exits against the fascist and unfair trial, defending themselves to be living for justice.

But the military gangsters void of human conscience and morality, passed judgement themselves in the vacant court where there were no “accused” and observers and declared the trial closed.

Where can we find such a nefarious arbitrariness against human beings in the civilized society of the 20th century?

Such a trial not based on fair law is, in fact, a murderous trial to kill the political opponent in accordance with the intrigue of the dictator.

The military gangsters’ aim is, all in all, to declare death penalty to Kim Dae Jung.

It is no wonder that Kim Dae Jung justly denounced them in court saying that “It is not a trial against me, but a political suppression.”

3

The Chon Du Hwan military fascist clique’s operations to kill democrat Kim Dae Jung have been conducted with the full support of the US imperialists and Japan.

The United States ostensibly expresses its “discontent” with the trial of Kim Dae Jung, saying “concern” and “regret”, and pretends to be interested in the “political development” in south Korea. But it is nothing but a cunning trick to conceal its aggressive nature and placate the rapidly mounting anti-US sentiment of the south Korean people.

What the US wants in south Korea is neither human rights nor democracy. It only wants to maintain the fascist dictatorial regime and keep its hold on south Korea as its permanent colony and military base.

With such a design it installed in power the military fascist clique led by Chon Du Hwan, the lackey hand-raised by it as an agent for over 20 years, and drove them to destroy all the anti-fascist democratic forces in the way of its colonial rule.

It was the US that masterminded the Chon Du Hwan clique’s “army purge coup” on December 12 last year and their May 17 outrage. It was also the US imperialists that allowed them to use divisions of the puppet army in the Kwangju massacre and deployed aircraft carrier and alarm planes in and around south Korea to intimidate people and encourage the stooges. And it is also they that have encouraged and supported the illegal trial of Kim Dae Jung.

The US employing the double-faced tactics of causing disease and giving medicine ceased to advocate “human rights” and “democratic progress” in south Korea with the atrocious Kwangju massacre and supported openly the Chon Du Hwan clique in their operation to destroy the south Korean democratic forces and punish and kill patriotic people including Kim Dae Jung and students in large numbers.

When Kwangju was a pool of blood and the trial of Kim Dae Jung and patriotic people was on the order of the day, the chieftain of the US imperialists, Carter, was the first to support the fascist suppression by traitor Chon Du Hwan, claiming that the security of south Korea goes ahead of respect for human rights and the establishment of a democratic government.

All facts irrefutably prove that the US imperialists support and mastermind the Kim Dae Jung case.

The successive authorities of Japan are also accomplices with the south Korean puppets in the plot to kill Kim Dae Jung.

The Japanese government's responsibility for the Kim Dae Jung case is very grave. The Kim Dae Jung case was caused by south Korean puppet CIA agents in Japan and it is a violation of human rights and sovereignty. But it did not probe into the case but connived at it through the "political settlements" made with the puppets two times.

The Japanese government must take necessary steps to save the life of Kim Dae Jung in the clutch of the Chon Du Hwan clique so as to repair the wrong it did in the past in conspiracy with the south Korean puppets.

But, far from doing so, it, under the pretext of "non-interference in the domestic affairs of another country," is backing the Chon Du Hwan clique in the operation to kill Kim Dae Jung.

Severely criticizing such attitude of the Japanese authorities, Japanese papers say: "The move of the Suzuki government is encouraging the Chon Du Hwan regime, exerting a serious influence on the trial of Kim Dae Jung."

The Japanese reactionaries collaborated with traitor Pak Jung Hi in the Kim Dae Jung kidnap case in the past and are now indirectly conspiring with traitor Chon Du Hwan in the criminal operation to kill Kim Dae Jung.

Such attitude of their US and Japanese masters are greatly encouraging the south Korean puppets.

Despite the strong protest at home and abroad, the Chon Du Hwan clique are trying to kill Kim Dae Jung at any cost with the support of the US and Japanese masters.

Traitor and hangman Chon Du Hwan can confirm the capital punishment of democrat Kim Dae Jung in the final decision and execute him at once.

But injustice cannot be justice and fascism cannot be stronger than democracy.

In the final decision too the dictators will never be able to convince Kim Dae Jung of his "crime".

In his final statement in the court Kim Dae Jung solemnly declared: "I am not guilty. I don't ask for mercy.... I wish democracy for the people to this land even if I die."

The Chon Du Hwan military fascist clique's plot to kill Kim Dae Jung should be stopped at once and illegally imprisoned Kim Dae Jung must be released unconditionally and immediately.

If the Chon Du Hwan clique dare to execute Kim Dae Jung, defying the unanimous protest of the home and world public, the south Korean people and the world's people will never tolerate them.

**THE COMMITTEE FOR THE PEACEFUL REUNIFICATION
OF THE FATHERLAND**

THE KOREAN DEMOCRATIC LAWYERS' ASSOCIATION